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DEPARTMENT OF
BIOCHEMISTRY AND NUTRITION

September 5, 1962

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
School of Medicine
Stanford University Medical Center
Palo Alto, California

Dear Professor Lederberg,

I was interested to receive a copy of your note of August 29th to Dr. Jerzy Brahms of the University of Alberta Medical School. We have been most interested in the recent publication in the Journal of Molecular Biology of Brahms and Kay to which your letter alludes. Our own previous work on the molecular parameters of cardiac myosin have pointed to a considerably lower particle weight of about 250,000 for cardiac myosin. More recent work in our laboratory, however, has suggested that the true particle size of "ordinary" cardiac myosin is probably of twice that, about 500,000. This figure agrees very well with the particle estimates for normal skeletal myosin and is appreciably lower than the value reported by Brahms and Kay.

Furthermore, there is no doubt in our minds that cardiac and skeletal myosin are different in other respects. There is additional immuno-chemical evidence of differences to that of Dr. Ogawa's as well as marked different ATP-ase activity and altered resistance of cardiac myosin to the action of trypsin.

We expect to continue to study this problem for sometime to come with particular reference to changes which occur in connection with cardiac failure in experimental animals and in human subjects. I would be most pleased to put you on our reprint list if you would be interested in following this work.

Very sincerely yours,

Robert E. Olson

Robert E. Olson, M.D.
Professor and Head of the Department

REO/lhm

See also corresp with Ogawa

R.E. OLSON